



New York City Environmental Justice Alliance

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MEMO OF SUPPORT

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Resolution No. 228: Resolution calling upon the Mayor to revitalize the Mayor's Office of Industrial and Manufacturing Business and to expand the technical assistance the Office would offer manufacturing and industrial businesses in the City.

Overview:

The New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA) commends the City Council for calling upon the Mayor to revitalize the Mayor's Office of Industrial and Manufacturing Business and to expand the technical assistance the Office would offer manufacturing and industrial businesses in the City. However, we strongly urge the City Council to revise Resolution 228 to include provisions to ensure accountability, transparent decision-making, and community oversight in the proposal for the Mayor's Office of Industrial and Manufacturing Business.

Recommendation:

Resolution 228 provides an important means to strengthen the City's industrial policy. In order to order to maximize the impact of this initiative, we strongly recommend that the City Council consider including the following recommendation developed in partnership with NYC-EJA member organization, UPROSE:

Appoint a citywide advisory board to the Mayor's Office of Industrial and Manufacturing Business. An advisory board which includes the representation of local community stakeholders will help establish a transparent and inclusive planning process for the design and negotiation of economic development strategies to re-invigorate New York City's industrial policy. The advisory board should have the opportunity to inform and comment on industrial policy, improve the engagement of local communities in the design and negotiation of industrial and economic development proposals affecting their neighborhoods.

Proposed language (last whereas):

Whereas, To increase transparency in decision-making, the City shall appoint an Advisory Board to the MOIMB, including community boards, local community-based and environmental justice organizations, to represent the needs and priorities of local communities living and working in industrial and manufacturing neighborhoods.

The New York City Environmental Justice Alliance will support Resolution 228 provided that it is revised to include a citywide advisory board to the Mayor's Office of Industrial and Manufacturing Business, which includes the representation of local community stakeholders.